

# AWA Technical Update

Try as we have over many years as an industry body to modify the manifestation, or marking, requirements of the glass code it remains a matter of public policy in building regulation. AS1288, Glass in Buildings, Selection and Installation, was formally amended again on the 11th November 2012 and Clause 5.19 for manifestation, as amended by Amendment No. 1, 2008, has been replaced with more simplified wording that clarifies that it applies to doors and door side panels and not windows. The new clause reads:

### 5.19.1 General

If the presence of glass in a door or side panel is not made apparent by stiles, rails, transoms, colonial bars, other components of the glazing system, or other decorative treatment, such as being opaque or patterned, the glass shall be marked to make it visible. Where the BCA requires access for people with disabilities, glazing in buildings shall be marked in accordance with AS1428.1.

### 5.19.2 Panels other than doors and side panels

If a panel can be mistaken for a doorway or opening the glass shall be marked to make it visible.

The marking requirements under 5.19.3 have stayed the same but there is an additional note only to the effect that application of other clauses in 5.19 requiring the use of either safety glass or thicker annealed glass will reduce the risk of injury from human impact and glass breakage. Although glass may not break, injury can still occur when there is accidental human

impact caused to persons unaware of the presence of glass and due in part to the transparent characteristic of glass. Where such a risk exists, consideration should be given to marking the glass to make it visible.

The AWA will publish an updated key message to aid members and the industry. A couple of diagrams from the message that give guidance to where manifestation applies are below. **Please note, that regardless of the fantastic photographs of wide expanses of unmarked glass doors in architectural magazines, marking glass is mandatory under the Building Code of Australia and AS1288.**

